(a) the steps taken by his Ministry to solve shortage of Doctors in different States to provide basic health facilities to everyone;

(b) the policy to establish more medical colleges in different States; and

(c) whether his Ministry can provide 3 per cent special Quota to Bodoland Students from Central Government quota in (i) Guwahati and Silchar Medical College and (ii) RIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) In order to facilitate establishment of more medical colleges in different States and to increase the number of doctors, Medical Council of India Regulations are being amended to rationalize he existing norms of requirement of land; encouraging Public Private Partnership (PPP), allowing Corporate sector to set up medical colleges; altering the teacher student ratio etc.

Further, this Ministry proposes to set up a National Council for Human Resources in Health as an overarching regulatory body for the health sector to reform the current regulatory framework and enhance supply of skilled personnel. A Task Force under the chairmanship of Union Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) has been constituted to deliberate upon the issue of setting up the proposed National Council. The Task Force shall submit its report to the Ministry by 31st July, 2009.

(c) The Central Government will examine the matter relating to provision of 3 per cent quota to Bodoland Students in these three institutions.

Grievances of employees and workers

189. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Health Employees and Workers Confederation, New Delhi had submitted Memorandum dated 4th June, 2009 to Hon'ble Minister;

(b) if so, the status of the legitimate grievances of the employees; and

(c) whether he will call the Union representatives for discussion?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The demands of All India Health Employees and Workers Confederation, New Delhi have already been discussed with the representatives. They have also been advised to raise this legitimate demands through existing mechanisms of grievance redressal.

Upgradation of CGHS facilities

190. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the CGHS hospitals require to upgrade the existing medical facilities;

(b) whether Government intend to appoint more doctors to provide proper medical care; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) CGHS has not set up any hospital for serving its beneficiaries.

(b) and (c) The number of doctors to be posted in CGHS Dispensaries is regulated by the norms determined by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance. Currently these norms provide for 1 doctor for 75 patients in the dispensary. To fill up vacancies against sanctioned posts, Government appointed 79 GDMOs on contract basis in Delhi, of whom 55 have joined.

Action taken by States to contain Swine Flu

191. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Swine Flu cases in India have been on an increase for last two/three months;

(b) if so, whether some States like Andhra Pradesh, Delhi have detected number of cases of Swine Flu;

(c) if so, whether India has prepared itself to tackle Swine Flu;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether all States have been urged to take necessary steps in checking this disease; and

(e) whether WHO has also warned countries of HIV infected which are at greater risk of contracting the deadly Swine Flu virus and should be considered as priority population for preventive strategies?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. In our country the first case was reported on 13th May, 2009. Since then there have been 109 laboratory confirmed cases of Influenza A H1N1 [swine]. Delhi has reported 38 cases and Andhra Pradesh 18 cases.

(c) and (d) Government of India took a series of actions. A comprehensive plan including guidelines and standard operating procedures were put in place. Travel advisory was issued to defer non essential travel to the affected countries. Entry screening of passengers started at 22 international airports and five international checkpoints Community surveillance to detect clusters of influenza like illness is being done through Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. National